



PATENTS
112056-0004P1
P01-1036.02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re The Application of:)
Samuel M. Cramer et al.)
Serial No.: 09/933,883)
Filed: August 20, 2001)
For: NEGOTIATED GRACEFUL)
TAKEOVER IN A NODE)
CLUSTER)

Examiner: Manoskey, Joseph D.

Art Unit: 2113

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February 1, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents
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Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This Preliminary Amendment is filed with a Request for Continued Examination
and an Information Disclosure Statement.